

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of: Johnson et al.

Serial No.: To Be Assigned

Filed: Herewith

For: ELECTRONIC SOURCING SYSTEM

Box Patent Application  
Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington D.C. 20231

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9-19

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Dear Sir:

Please amend the application as follows prior to examination on the merits.

IN THE CLAIMS

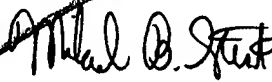
Please cancel claims 1-78 of the application.

Please add:

79. An electronic sourcing system comprising:
- a database containing data relating to items associated with at least two vendors maintained so that selected portions of the database may be searched separately;
  - means for searching for matching items in the selected portions of the database;
  - means for building a requisition that includes data relating to selected matching items;
  - means for processing the requisition to generate purchase orders for selected matching items.

Respectfully submitted,

By:



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